REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA AND RECORD OF ACTION

JULY 8, 2003

FROM: **EDOUARD P. LAYAYE**, Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer

Department of Agriculture/Weights and Measures

SUBJECT: ORGANIC FOOD INSPECTION AGREEMENT

STATE AGREEMENT NO. 03-0217

RECOMMENDATION: Approve agreement with California Department of Food and Agriculture providing for the Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer to register and inspect organic food producers and handlers and investigate complaints from July 1, 2003, through June 30, 2004, for compensation in the amount of \$800.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: In 1992, provisions were added to the California Food and Agricultural Code requiring organic food producers and handlers to be registered by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA). In order to verify compliance by the producers and handlers, CDFA initiated agreements providing for inspection services by county agricultural commissioners. CDFA reimburses the counties for these services from fees collected from the organic food producers and handlers.

This agreement requires the Department to inspect two organic food producers, a Farmer's Market and a retail establishment selling organic food for reimbursement of \$70 for each inspection. Additional revenue would be generated when the Department initiates an organic registration for a handler or producer and for renewal of existing registrations. In addition, this agreement requires the Department to investigate organic food complaints involving producers and handlers.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: This item has been reviewed by the Office of the County Counsel (Scott Runyan, Deputy County Counsel) on June 26, 2003, and reviewed by the County Administrative Office (Wayne F. Thies, Administrative Analyst) on June 27, 2003.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Appropriations to perform this activity and revenue from this agreement are included in the Department's FY 2003/04 budget.

COST REDUCTION REVIEW: The County Administrative Office has reviewed this agenda item and concurs with the department's proposal and recommends this action on the basis of continuing these fully reimbursed inspection services to the State.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S): All

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PRESENTER: EDOUARD P. LAYAYE, Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer, 387-2115

Record of Action of the Board of Supervisors